

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By JANETTE DOLABSON

Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> we held our annual Retirement Luncheon. It was the largest turn out for this luncheon we have had in years. I want to thank all the retirees and active Letter Carriers and family members who came out to help honor the retirees who worked so hard to get us to where we are all today. A special thanks goes to Bob Johnson who worked really hard to put this together. I would also like to thank Roger Askew for his work organizing the event and the member pins that were given out.

National Association of Letter Carriers Director of Safety and Health, Manny Peralta was in attendance to help us honor those there. Thank you for coming all this was and for the wonderful speech you gave on the importance of our retirees and of Unions in this country. You are truly inspiring and a great friend of the Branch. Thank you to Regional Administrative Assistant, Calvin Brookins for coming out and representing the National Business Agents office. It is always good to see Calvin and his wife Linda.

Some of those our new retirees were present at this event. Those include, Debbie Burruel, Richard Reimer, Richard Franco, David Koos, Shelly Lombard, Carmen Sanchez and our own Recording Secretary, Steve Seyfried. Congratulations on your retirement. It has been well deserved.

Gold Card members (50 years or more of membership in the NALC) present were, Ted Dent, Irwin Schnyder and Frank Brash.

Members present who received 35 year membership pins were, Jeff Jackson, Gary Lee, and Linda Brookins. 30 year pins went to Larry Dolabson and Tracy Mullinax and a 25 year pin went to Paul Jeffrey. Thank you all for your many years of membership and dedication to the NALC and branch 2462.

We gave out 2 prestigious awards at the luncheon. The first one was the Harry Brenneman Award. This award goes to a shop steward who has done an exceptional job over the year representing Letter Carriers. It went to Shop Steward Jemmayen Macaraeg out of Panorama City Station. She is one of our newest stewards and does an outstanding job. Congratulations Mayen!

The Branches most prestigious Award is the Ray Kreyer Award. This award goes to the person that the executive board felt went on an above serving the branch. This year it went to Bob Johnson. Bob works hard serving the branch. He does many jobs with little recognition and we greatly appreciate his hard work and dedication to the branch. It was well deserved! Congratulations Bob!

(Continued on Page 3)

### --SPECIAL-- NOTICE NO BRANCH MEETING IN DECEMBER

BRANCH 2462 HOLIDAY OPEN  
HOUSE  
SATURDAY EVENING  
DECEMBER 10, 2016

AT  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL  
(CORNER OF VALERIO & VAN  
NUYS)

DOORS OPEN 6:00 PM - DINNER 7:00  
PM

ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILY  
ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

FREE FOOD - FREE DRINK - FREE  
FUN

DOOR PRIZES FOR MEMBERS

FOOD WILL BE CATERED BY  
STONEFIRE GRILL

SANTA WILL BE THERE !!

"The MailCall" is published monthly by "Heart of the Valley Branch 2462, NALC, 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., Suite 101, Van Nuys, CA 91406 in the interest of and for the Letter Carriers of the Van Nuys Post Office and its Stations. ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION MUST BE IN THE HANDS OF THE EDITOR ON NIGHT OF THE REGULAR BRANCH MEETING. ALL ARTICLES MUST BE TYPED OR ON COMPUTER DISK WITH SINGLE LINE SPACING. The Editor reserves the right to delete any article he deems necessary, improper, or unfit. All opinions expressed are those of the writer and are not necessarily those of the Editor or Branch 2462, NALC. The views expressed in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official views of the U.S. Postal Service. In the hopes that any material contained herein may be of benefit to your Branch and to the goals of the NALC, permission is granted to copy and/or use any material in this publication with our best wishes.

## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT Tracy Mullinax

### The Holiday Season----A Time To Be Thankful

As we approach the holiday season, it is an excellent time to reflect on those things we are most thankful for. It was not long ago when mail volume and parcels dropped to levels where routes were eliminated and attrition of carriers was not being replaced and our membership declined. We should all be thankful for our being able to take advantage of the e-commerce boom and thus increased parcel business. The Postal Service's ability to become profitable on the backs of letter carriers has given our union the ability to have more skin in the game and enhance their ability to negotiate a contract or go to arbitration with the tools necessary to get a good one. Before 1970, letter carriers had to beg for a raise to Congress. After letter carriers went on strike that year, crippling the Service, we won the right to collectively bargain our contract or get one through the arbitration procedure. Over 46 years later, we are still fighting for a contract that rewards letter carriers for their hard work dedication and contributions. For that, we all should be thankful.

Through the years, our union has negotiated a 40 hour work week, 10 paid holidays, 26 paid vacation days after 15 years of service and 13 sick days a year. Also, our union has been able to negotiate health benefits, life insurance, a pension and a 401k matching program. We receive overtime after 8 hours and double time after 10 hours except in December. We have received wage increases and COLA increases in every contract and have never had our wages and/or benefits reduced. Our union dues pay for many things at the National, State and local levels and our elected union officials are working hard each and every day to preserve what we have and continue to fight for our rights at all 3 levels. For this, we should all be thankful! Why? Because, with the stroke of a pen, Congress can take all or part of it away and this is why it is so important to elect labor friendly candidates during election season to ensure we have them watching our backs on Capitol Hill.

I would like the membership to know our routes are longer due to increased political mail, coverages and parcels but remember this is job security and as long as the Postal Service is in good financial health, we will have a job as long as we want one.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the members of Branch 2462 for their support of me as your appointed Vice-President these past 2 years! It has been an honor and a privilege serving all of you. I would also like to wish all of you and your families a happy and healthy holiday season.

God Bless

In Unionism

## ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	5	4	4	3	3	3	3	6	3	4	3
ENCINO	3	4	4	4	4	2	3	5	4	4	5
PANORAMA CITY	4	6	4	4	3	1	2	5	4	4	3
SHERMAN OAKS	3	3	3	4	3	3	4	12	3	4	3
SUN VALLEY	2	3	2	2	3	1	2	1	2	0	2
TARZANA	2	4	3	7	3	5	5	5	3	5	4
RETIREE'S	4	7	6	7	7	6	6	6	5	8	4
TOTAL	23	31	26	31	26	21	25	40	24	29	24

MEETING PLACE OF BRANCH 2462, NALC  
6910 HAYVENHURST AVE., SUITE 101  
VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA

NEXT MEETING  
\*\*\*6:30 PM\*\*\*

**JANUARY**  
**3rd**  
**"2017"**

DEADLINE DATE FOR THE NEXT  
ISSUE OF "THE MAIL CALL" IS

**Jan 6, 2017**

WEB PAGE.... WWW.NALCBRANCH2462.ORG  
BRANCH OFFICE.....818-786-8505  
O P C PERSONNEL OFFICE.....818-374-5600  
E-Mail.....Branch2462nalc@gmail.com

**"RETIREE CORNER"**  
ATTENTION: !!!!

NO BREAKFASTS TILL  
THE NEW YEAR  
Next Breakfast is on  
January 28, 2017  
Fourth Saturday of the Month  
**Bob Johnson**

# President's Report

(Continued from page 1)

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our annual Christmas Party will be held Saturday Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at Knights of Columbus Hall 14450 Valerio St. in Van Nuys, Ca. Doors open at 6:00 PM and food will be served at 7:00. There will be food from Stonefire Grill and lots of raffles. Beer will be available in the bar area. We will have a special appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus for all your kids to have their pictures taken with. So if you can bring your family feel free to do so. This is a really fun night and we hope you can make it.

## CONTRACT

No news is good news? We think so. That means that the negotiations are still underway and the chances of us getting a new negotiated contract rather than going to binding arbitration is good. We will let you know as soon as we hear one way or the other.

## ELECTION

By the time you receive this newsletter the elections will be in the books. I hope we have a new president elect Named Hilary Clinton. If not, we have a long hard road ahead of us as a union and as citizens of this country. I am also hoping that we can retake the Senate and the House or at least one of those so we might be able to get some legislation passed.

Tip for this Holiday season from [NALC.org](http://NALC.org):

"Stay balanced this holiday season Have your recent holiday seasons been more about stress than about comfort and joy? Perhaps you've gotten pulled in too many directions, ate and drank too much, attended too many events, and have generally gotten worn out. Can there be a better way this year?

Ideas for handling family stress Here are a few tips on how to avoid some of the stressors that can accompany family holiday celebrations. • Hot topics like politics and religion can derail the fun of family gatherings. If a discussion gets heavy, defuse it with humor or just change the subject. • Don't use holiday celebrations to confront others. • Be sensitive to people's need for private space. Give everyone (including yourself) the opportunity to step aside for some private time. • When planning holiday get togethers, try to ensure that no one feels forced to continue a tradition they no longer enjoy. Discuss specific activities in advance; if you can't agree on making changes, maybe it's best to make other plans for this year. • Establish your boundaries. You can say no to certain requests, and you can exit a gathering if someone in your family needs a break."

TIRED OF NOT  
KNOWING WHAT'S GOING ON ???  
SICK OF LISTENING TO YOUR  
CASE NEIGHBOR GOSSIP ABOUT  
THE POSTAL SERVICE !!!!!



Join E-ACTIVIST. It is simple go to the NALC website at <http://nalc.org/> and Click on the Logo you see above on the page. Fill out the easy form and you will get updates on a regular basis and then you won't be left in the dark when new information comes in. Don't want to go on line ?? Just contact your Shop Steward at your station or call the Union office leave your number and we will call you and walk you through the process. It only takes a couple of minutes and then you will be able to stay up to date on what is happening in Washington and how it effects your job and your paycheck. DON'T WAIT—DO IT TODAY !

## Happy Thanksgiving To

## All Members & Family



NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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VAN NUYS, CA  
PERMIT No. 314

# "THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

Steve Seyfried, Editor  
6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101  
Van Nuys, CA 91406

Address Service Requested

## Branch Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2016

By

Steve Seyfried, Secretary

The Meeting was held at the Branch 2462 Union Hall 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave, Van Nuys California. It was called to order by PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON at 7:06 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms RAUL DOZAL

MOMENT OF SILENCE-----All Who have Passed

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT—J. DOLABSON, MULLINAX, SEYFRIED, WILSON, BURTON, JEFFREY, DOZAL, L DOLABSON

ABSENT—JOHNSON, ENZ

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

VICKIE STEFFEN-TAMURA, SERGIO AGUILAR, RONIQUA HIGGS

BILLS READ—NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HEALTH & SAFTETY Take the time to be safe and obey the safety regulations, they will save your life, and reward you monetarily. Make sure you are wearing your seat belts at all times while driving or moving your vehicle. Never be outside your vehicle with the engine running for any reason !!!

RETIREES 4 retiree's present tonight.

RAY KREYER award was presented to ROBERT JOHNSON and the HARRY BRENNEMAN AWARD was given to JEMMAYEN MACAREG 2 Branch members who have given outstanding service to Branch 2462. Congratulations to both.

MDA FUND--DOZAL Currently \$11920.00 in fund

HBR—L. DOLABSON Open Season for health plan will be from November 14<sup>th</sup> through December 12<sup>th</sup> this year. NALC High option costs are: Active Carrier, Self-only \$68.17 p/pp, up \$7, Self Plus one \$ 136. p/pp and Self-Family \$ 146 p/pp, up \$8. Retirees Self \$167.70, up \$5, and Self-Family \$ 363.76, up \$ 10. These are preliminary costs, you will receive a full explanation and price list from the Health Benefit Plan. New notices will start appearing on food packaging starting in January, some of the new information will include calorie counts, clearer serving size amounts and also salt content.

MDA--ANGER No Report

MBA—ENZ No Report

EAP—DANIELS Spoke on the availability of services to help all employees and their family members.

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT—No Report

VICE-PRESIDENT MULLINAX Congratulations to CESAR BENDO from the Encino office who is Retiring. Item J will go into effect on December 3<sup>rd</sup> through December 30<sup>th</sup>. Read my article in last months MailCall for detailed information on this. Article 8 violations continue to be a big problem in all stations. Stewards should be closely monitoring this and filing grievances where needed. Remember to Vote ! New CCA's have 60 days to opt into the Life Insurance plan. Contact your Shop Steward for further information.

PRESIDENT DOLABSON Report will be in Mail Call

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION—Branch donate \$ 100.00 to the Salvation Army for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Cost to the Branch \$ 200.00

M/S/C

MOTION—Branch donate \$ 100.00 to the North Valley Caring Center for Thanksgiving

M/S/C

MOTION—Branch donate \$ 50.00 to the American Cancer Society

M/S/C

MOTION—Branch donate \$ 100.00 to the Wounded Warrior Project

M/S/C

MOTION—Branch donate \$ 100.00 to the U.S. Marine Corps. Toy's for Tot's

M/S/C

MOTION—Branch empower the Executive Board to conduct any and all business of the Branch from November 2, 2016 through January 3, 2017 M/S/C

### UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE

#### GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

New Member SERGIO AGUILAR, was sworn in as a new member of Branch 2462, NALC. Congratulations.

Branch Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2016 at Knights of Columbus Hall in Van Nuys. Doors will open at 6 pm and Dinner will be served at 7 pm.

Thanks to JOHN BURTON for working for all Letter Carriers in this year's Election Campaign. He and fellow Letter Carriers JILL LEMMONS and DAVID HYMAN have spent the last month working with the State Association on behalf of various local candidates. Well Done All !!!!

#### MDA DRAWING

\$ 3 JEFF JACKSON—SHERMAN OAKS

\$ 4 STEVE SEYFRIED--RETIREE--DONATED

\$ 7 PAUL JEFFREY--ENCINO—DONATED

Meeting Adjourned 8:31 PM